Equal Rights

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SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 28, 1931

Woman's Party Commemorates Pioneer's Birthday

According to a time-honored custom the National Woman's Party on February 15 observed the anniversary of the birth of Susan B. Anthony in a simple ceremonial held in the crypt of the National Capitol where the memorial statue of the pioneers stands. From left to right, Mrs. Conway Stetson, Muna Lee, Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, Adelaide Johnson, Dora G. Ogle and Mrs. B. F. Lee.

Equal Rights

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Annual Dues	$10.00
Associate Members	$1.00
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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 52]
[House Joint Resolution Number 55]
Introduced in the Senate June 4, 1929,
by SENATOR GERALD P. NYE, North Dakota.
Introduced in the House April 25, 1929,
by REPRESENTATIVE FREDERICK W. MAGRADY,
Pennsylvania.

The Human Mind Functions

IT IS a tremendous comfort, now and then, to discover a single human mind that functions rationally. The experience is as pleasant as it is infrequent. Imagine our astonishment, therefore, when we, discovered, recently, a number of human minds in Wisconsin, a whole flock of human minds, that were so eminently capable of reason that they defeated Senator Polakowski's maternity bill for employed women. It was, of course, perfectly clear that the amiable Senator's bill would be a profound detriment, if it became law, to precisely the class that he professed to wish to aid. But that there should have been enough people, and legislators at that, to see through the nonsense and defeat the bill was practically unprecedented.

It almost makes us believe that evolution is still evoluting, and it certainly reaffirms our belief in the National Woman's Party.

You can read the details of the episode on another page of this issue as reported by the Wisconsin State Journal. The gist of the matter is that Senator Polakowski wished to aid married women by making their potential maternity a liability to their employers. That this would make all employers who deserved to be in business refuse to employ married women seems not to have entered the capacious brain box of the gentle Senator.

But it entered other people's brain boxes where there really was gray matter. Members of the National Woman's Party, among them Mrs. Gustav H. Hipke, Mrs. Max Rotter, and Mrs. Belle Bortin Ruppa, took the field and the bill was defeated.

We tremble to think what would have happened had Senator Polakowski introduced his bill in any State other than Wisconsin.

The Inference Is Obvious

DESPITE certain signal defeats, as in New York State, the legislative campaign against married women in the gainful occupations still continues. We indicate, on another page of this issue, the precarious situation that exists in Nebraska, Pennsylvania and elsewhere.

Since men still overwhelmingly dominate our various State governments the responsibility is their's, but we warn them that they are treading on dangerous ground, for judging from the experience of some countries the plan of making marriage the basis of dismissal from gainful occupation tends to throw the institution of matrimony into disrepute.

In Bucharest, for example, since the Government promulgated an order about six weeks ago to the effect that where both husband and wife are in State employ, whoever enjoys the higher salary is to be dismissed, 2,731 officials have handed in divorce petitions to one Bucharest court alone.

Commenting editorially on this situation, the Hartford *Courant* of February 17 says:

"Not a few women have lost their jobs in the last year simply because they were married and their husbands were earning salaries deemed sufficient to support a family. Undoubtedly it has been dull, wasteful and exasperating for some of the women who have been forced back to home and kitchen against their wills. They have probably been resentful, but it has not yet come to public notice that they have preferred their jobs to their husbands.

"This, however, is exactly what happened in Roumania when someone in authority was shocked to discover that many men working for the Government were married to women working for it and issued an order that in such a union, the one earning the larger salary should be dismissed. This was perhaps fairer than demanding that it be always the woman who should sacrifice her independence, and it had the added advantage of cutting the payroll more drastically, but it also had the disadvantage, tradition and practice being what they are, that it was usually the husband who was forced to resign. His self-respect was wounded. In many cases, moreover, two could not live on the smaller wages.

"The solution was plain. Forced to decide between wife or husband and job, they chose what seemed the more important. Within three weeks of the time the ruling was made, 2,731 officials handed in divorce petitions to one Bucharest court alone."

It might be a good idea for American women who are denied employment simply because they are married to follow the example of their Roumanian brothers and sisters. After all, if those who make our laws do not respect the institution of matrimony, but, on the contrary, penalize those who enter upon it, why bother? The inference is obvious.

Crusading for Equality

MEMBERS of the National Woman's Party have been doing a great deal of active crusading lately. Perhaps the most extensive trip was that of Mrs. Harvey Wiley, Muna Lee and Anna Jackson Sloan, during the week of February 18, when they drove into Pennsylvania.

Monday, they arrived in Harrisburg in time to hear Mrs. Gifford Pinchot, wife of the Governor, lecture on her trip to the South Sea Islands. That same night, they attended a dinner given jointly by the Business and Professional Women's Club and the Quota Club at the Penn-Harris Hotel, at which Mrs. Wiley was the principal speaker.

She spoke on "Women and Unemployment," summarizing the attempts throughout the country during the past four months to oust women, particularly married women, from their jobs and to supplant them with men.

Muna Lee also spoke on the Cable nationality bill and urged everyone present to wire or write their Congressmen in support of the bill. Many promised to do so. Ella Riegel, legislative chairman for Pennsylvania, was also a guest at the dinner.

At the close of the meeting, the National Woman's Party crusaders went on to the Legislature, which was still in session, and visited both the Senate and House of Representatives.

The next day they called on Mrs. Pinchot at the Executive Mansion and discussed the unemployment problem with her, giving her a copy of the affirmations concerning women and unemployment, which were recently drawn up. Mrs. Pinchot said that she was heartily opposed to the dismissal of married women from their jobs and that this would not be officially done in Pennsylvania.

A later call on Governor Pinchot at the Capitol disclosed the fact that he was in entire agreement with his wife and the National Woman's Party on this important question. He said that he was very proud that the bill, which he fostered, giving women equal pay for equal work, became a law during his previous term of office.

Mrs. Thomas Mirkil and Mrs. William Harris accompanied Mrs. Wiley, Miss Lee, and Mrs. Sloan on both these deputations. Mrs. Sharon MacDonald, chairman of the Woman's Party for Harrisburg, had also planned and hoped to go with them but was prevented by unforseen circumstances.

Then Mrs. Wiley, Mrs. Sloan, and Miss Lee went on to Philadelphia where Tuesday evening they attended a small but enthusiastic meeting of members of the Woman's Party. Anna M. W. Pennypacker, retiring chairman for Pennsylvania; Mrs. Carl Grammer, vice-chairman for Pennsylvania; and Helen Paul, sister of Alice Paul, were among the members attending.

Mrs. Wiley again talked on women and unemployment and Miss Lee discussed the Cable bill.

Wednesday morning, the three travelers left Philadelphia for Washington.

FANNY BUNAND SEVASTOS, of the Inter American Commission of Women, has also been crusading. Thursday she went to Virginia to address an enthusiastic gathering of some forty members of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Arlington County.

She spoke on the work of the women for equality in nationality at The Hague and later at Geneva, a topic which she found was entirely new but extremely interesting to her audience. It was so interesting in fact, that the meeting, with Miss Sevastos as the only speaker, lasted from 7 until 11 P. M.

The Woman of the Ages

By Rose Arnold Powell

ONE hundred eleven years ago, on the fifteenth of February, 1820, there was born among the Berkshire Hills of New England the little Quaker girl, Susan Brownell Anthony, destined to influence profoundly not only the people and conditions of her own day, but the people of all countries for all time.

Born of sturdy American stock, Miss Anthony early manfiested that independence of spirit which led her father and her mother to think for themselves in religious and other matters. It is related that on one occasion when ten-year-old Susan accompanied her father to the meeting-house, she curled up in a corner by the stove, thinking to escape detection. A "high-seat" Quaker discovered her and tip-toed down to her and said, "Is thee a member?" "No," answered Susan, "but my father is." "That will not do. Thee will have to go out. "My mother told me to stay in," insisted little Susan. "Thy mother doesn't manage things here." "But my father told me to stay in," persisted the courageous child. "Neither thy father nor thy mother can say what thee shall do here; thee will have to go out," was the final dictum and little Susan's early defense of her rights had to yield to stern Quaker discipline. Her father's displeasure later led to the request that his children be made members of the Society, which was done. His progressive spirit later broke away from the orthodox Quaker faith.

The influence of her father in shaping her early thinking is evidenced in his advanced idea that every girl should be trained for self-support. Accordingly, he was much criticised for allowing Susan at the age of seventeen to earn her living by teaching school. During her ten years of teaching experience, her active intelligence began to question many things. She kept a journal, and in recording a trip down the Hudson, she expressed her horror at hearing slavery justified. This journal showed that the topics of slavery, religion and temperance were uppermost in her mind. It was during this period that the startling teachers' convention incident took place. Women teachers never presumed to take part in the discussions. On this occasion Miss Anthony rose to express her opinion on the question before the convention, saying, "I wish to speak to the question." It was like a thunderbolt out of a clear sky. She resolutely stood on her feet and held the floor while the men wrangled over giving a woman the privilege to speak. This time the redoubtable, older Susan won out. Her voice grew insistent during this teaching period, asking that women teachers have equal pay for equal work. Men principals were paid double the salary of women principals. When Peoples' College was opened, Miss Anthony boldly declared that girls should be admitted as well as boys. This institution shortly after became Cornell University.

At the age of thirty, finding the schoolroom too confining for her ever expanding mental horizon, she launched out into temperance work, forming the first State temperance organization for women in the United States. The Sons of Temperance had previously permitted the women to organize as a subsidiary body without any power to participate in deliberations. It was Miss Anthony's determined spirit which again "took the bit in her mouth" and set a new pace for women. Later, when the Men's State Temperance Society called a convention, a letter was received from them, saying, "Every member has expressed himself in favor of receiving the delegates of the Women's State Temperance Society just as the delegates of any other society and allowing them to take their own course, speak or not speak, as they choose." Thus was the battle for free speech for women in this instance fought and won.

It was during the strenuous days of col-

lecting money for the temperance cause that Miss Anthony was confronted with the financial bankruptcy of women. Only a few occupations were open to them and these were poorly paid. Men held the purse where married women were concerned. On every hand custom and tradition made of woman a chattel — little more. Miss Anthony's rising rebellion against the wrongs of her sex grew into a passion to devote her life to reform work.

Other women, led by Elisabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott, were already raising their protests which culminated in the first Women's Rights Convention at Seneca Falls, N. Y., in 1848. Though Miss Anthony did not attend this first convention, her mother and father and sister were present and gave her a stirring account of the meeting. Her first opportunity to attend one came in September, 1852. The previous May she had met Mrs. Stanton, whose name was to be linked with hers for over forty years in active suffrage work. These two were looked upon as arch conspirators against the happiness and security of the home. They were the aggressive agitators who "could not be together three days without starting something new."

The year 1852 stands out definitely as the time of Miss Anthony's entrance into public life. At that time her interests had been divided between temperance, women's rights and anti-slavery. The abolition movement was growing in strength and was calling insistently for standard-bearers. She had been longing to go into anti-slavery work and here was her opportunity. She cast her lot with William Lloyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips, and other abolitionists, tasting to the full the bitter cup of persecution.

The following extracts from the "Life and Work of Susan B. Anthony," by Ida Husted Harper, are typical of many experiences in those early days: "The mob, under the lead of Constable Richard L. Swift, fully answered all expectations. As Miss Anthony stepped forward, to open the meeting, she was greeted with a broadside of hisses and ironical applause. When Mrs. Stanton began her address, her voice was drowned in jeers and groans, and although she persevered for some time, she was unable to complete a single sentence. Reverend May attempted to speak and was met by yells and stamping of feet. A Southerner in the audience rose and said, 'Well, I may as well go back to Kentucky, for this is ahead of any demonstration against free speech I ever saw in the South,' but he was stopped by cries of 'Put him out!' The men kept on their hats, smoked pipes and cigars, stamped, bellowed, swore, and bellam reigned. The acting mayor, sheriff, and chief of police were present but not an arrest was made. Mrs. Stanton finally left the platform, but Miss Anthony courageously maintained her position until the chief of police mounted the platform and declared the meeting adjourned. Even the rioters refused to go out of the hall and the speakers were obliged to leave under the protection of the police amid the hooting and howling of the rabble. All wanted to give up the rest of the meetings, but Miss Anthony declared they had a right to speak and it was the business of the authorities to protect them, and persisted in finishing the series as advertised. On Sunday the only place where they were allowed to hold services was in Zion's colored church. The house was filled morning and evening and they were left in peace.

In connection with another meeting, Mrs. Harper wrote, "The Abolitionists encountered here the worst opposition of all. The hall was filled with a howling, drunken, infuriated crowd, headed by Ezra Downer, a liquor dealer, and Luke McKenna, a pro-slavery Democrat. Rotten eggs were thrown, benches broken, and knives and pistols gleamed in every direction. The few ladies present were hurried out of the room and Miss Anthony faced that raging audience, the only woman there. The Republican chief of police refused to make any effort toward keeping order. The mob crowded upon the platform and took possession of the meeting and Miss Anthony and her little band were forced out of the hall.

"That evening the rioters dragged through the streets hideous effigies of Susan B. Anthony and Rev. S. J. May and burned them in the public square."

ON another occasion when Miss Anthony was scheduled to speak the mayor of the town warned her of the danger and advised her to give up attempting to speak. Her answer was an indomitable "No!" Being a conscientious officer he sat on the platform throughout the meeting with a shot-gun across his knees. Thus did Miss Anthony live dangerously to maintain the right of women and men also, to freedom of speech. Then came the war and after it was over the women who had abandoned working for their own cause upon the promise by anti-slavery men to help them win their rights now demanded that the promise be fulfilled. This promise was utterly repudiated and Miss Anthony realized that if justice for women was ever to be won, women themselves must continue to fight for it. From then on to the close of her life she bent all her energies to securing the ballot as she clearly saw in her earlier work that without the ballot women were largely helpless. She literally knew nothing among us but woman and her enfranchised. Her marvelous generalship and organizing power developed through the years, organizing the National American Woman's Suffrage Association, planning campaigns and conventions, arranging for Congressional hearings, rolling up petitions, winning women to the standard, publishing a magazine, *The Revolution,* for a while, raising money for carrying on the work, meeting abuse and ridicule at every turn. Boldly claiming that women were citizens and that the Constitution gave them the right to vote, she exercised this right on election day in 1872 and was arrested, tried, and fined $100. The trial stands out as one of the most flagrant examples of injustice to women. Miss Anthony said, "Your Honor, I will never pay a dollar of your unjust fine," and she never did.

In 1883 Miss Anthony's desire to effect an international suffrage organization was greatly furthered. A nine-month's trip to Europe resulted in the forming of a strong committee to promote this purpose which later brought about the organization of the International Council of Women which met for the first time in Washington in 1888, forty years after the call was issued for the first Women's Rights Convention at Seneca Falls, N. Y. Thus was the gospel of the equality of women spread to other lands.

The tremendous energy of this heroine of hard work is evidenced in a letter to a friend: "I mailed 800 letters yesterday, a ndwe have sent over 1,500 reports, with 800 more promised."

Thus passed the busy years with campaign after campaign to win individual States for suffrage—failure after failure, heartened now and then by victory; the loss of true and tried friends and coworkers by death. In 1888 came Anna Howard Shaw to the rescue. She and Carrie Chapman Catt were towers of strength and Miss Anthony's chief lieutenants for many years. By the close of the nineteenth century persecution and calumny had passed away and Miss Anthony was honored and eulogized wherever she went. The status of women was greatly changed but there was still much to be won. Suffrage was still denied by Congress.

In 1900 Miss Anthony placed the burden of the presidency of the National American Woman's Suffrage Association on younger shoulders, but at the age of 80, she was still full of plans for her beloved cause. Her wonderful vitality was weakening. At this time her determination that Rochester University should be open to women had an almost fatal effect. It required an added fund which was to be raised by a certain day. Miss Anthony, when advised that $8,000 was necessary to complete the fund set about securing it in her characteristic way. After spending a strenuous day she succeeded in raising the deficit by subscription. Presenting the pledges to the board of trustees, one for $2,000 was rejected as not having an adequate guarantee. Miss Anthony replied, "I pledge my life insurance for the $2,000." A line in her diary ran: "They let the girls in. There was no alternative." A complete collapse followed this exertion,

with a month's serious illness. She was never quite herself again though she carried on like the good Spartan she always was. She undertook a trip to Europe after this to attend the meeting of the International Council of Women against the earnest protestations of her friends. She said that if she let the fear of death stop her she couldn't accomplish anything. So Sister Mary went with her. The abundant fruits of her long years of labor for women cheered her brave old heart as she visited again with the courageous women of other lands.

One more extended trip but not so long. Miss Anthony decided that she would attend the annual suffrage convention held in Portland, Oregon. In contrast to the pictures of her early martydom, the *Oregonian* reported: "When she rose to call the meeting to order she was literally deluged with floral tributes, and drolly peering over the heaped-up flowers she said, "This is rather different from the receptions I used to get fifty years ago. They threw things at me then—but they were not roses. There were not epithets enough in Webster's Unabridged to express their feelings. Things are changed now and I get flowers instead of eggs, compliments instead of epithets. I am thankful for this change which has come over the American people."

In 1906 Miss Anthony was in feeble health but she would come to the suffrage convention in Washington in February. At her eighty-sixth birthday celebration on the 15th, she could scarcely stand to say a few words, but she urged the women to keep right on working. Her last words to them were, "Failure is impossible." In less than a month her great soul had passed. Anna Howard Shaw wrote, "At the midnight hour the brave heart had almost ceased its beating, and at twenty-five minutes before one on the morning of Tuesday, March 13, it was stilled forever."

What could speak more eloquently and truly to those who know not whence their heritage came—our boys and girls who do not know her name—than the following beautiful tribute given in 1896 and recorded in Mrs. Harper's biography: "A Washington and a Lincoln have come in our great century, and between their birthdays was born a Susan B. Anthony, whose grand life has been given to a noble cause; once the target for the cruel and bitter shafts of ridicule; now deemed the noblest among women. The task of Washington and Lincoln could not be complete till the crown was placed on the brow of woman as well as man, and when the angels shall call Susan B. Anthony to the life immortal, her name, her memory on earth should and will take its place among the martyrs and saints of liberty, not for man alone, but for woman and child."

Still Attacking Married Women

ATTACKS on married women who earn their livings outside their homes instead of inside them still continue. There is a bill in the Nebraska Legislature to bar women from teaching in the public schools if they are married and their husbands are able to support them. It was introduced by State Senator Dworak of Omaha. A combined salary in excess of $2,000 would be enough to bar the women teachers under this bill, the Lincoln *Star* reports.

A hearing was given on the bill on February 17. School officials and teachers from Omaha and Superintendent M. C. Lefler of Lincoln opposed the measure, which had been referred to the Senate Committee on Miscellaneous Subjects.

Leaders in the Omaha Taxpayers' League, according to the *Star's* report, appeared in behalf of the bill. This seems curious, for taxpayers should want their money used to employ the best possible teachers, regardless of sex, marriage, or color of eyes.

The *Star's* report of the hearing said in part:

"School workers contended that the important consideration was to get the best possible teachers for the children. They also contended that many married women were working from necessity and not from choice. In answer to queries as to why it would not be better to use graduates of the university and normal schools, they pointed out that girls 21 and 22 could not handle classes of students 16 and 17 years old which more mature women could.

"The bill was also attacked as a backward step tending to remove women's rights. One speaker charged that if the purpose of the bill was sound economically, that it should bar as teachers women whose fathers or brothers were able to support them.

"They also pointed out that the bill would bar many able teachers, but would not affect women working in other industries where they were often in more direct competition with men.

"Peter Mehrens attacked the school workers, declaring that they had no business spending the taxpayers' money defending their positions. He claimed 95 per cent. of the people of Lincoln and Omaha would vote for the bill if it was submitted by referendum.

"W. F. Pott charged that men had to stick together to make a readjustment which would return women to the home. He also claimed that the educational system was becoming too heavy and that it was being run by an aristocracy.

"Henry Kiezer, another Omahan, told the committee that in his opinion the reason school boards favored married women was because they become more obedient servants to the 'controlling hierarchy.'

"Arguments were heard before the committee on the teacher question until after 6 o'clock, with Senator William Randall of Omaha, chairman, presiding."

The Public Schools Committee of the Patriotic Order of Sons of America has filed a petition with the Board of Education of Philadelphia against the appointment of married women as teachers unless they are the sole support of a family, and suggesting that those who get married be dropped from the payrolls.

D. D. Lescohier, executive secretary of the Wisconsin Citizens' Committee for Employment, has denied that he is supporting the measure introduced by Assemblyman Carlton Mauthe of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, prohibiting the State from employing a husband and a wife of the same family at the same time.

Professor Lescohier explained that a statement made by his committee urging employers to go over their payrolls and give as much employment to as many families as possible is not to be interpreted as meaning that the State should not employ more than one member of the same family or that it should not employ married women.

"This measure was recommended as an emergency measure of staggering work, and not as a permanent policy of State employment," Dr. Lescohier said. "Should the State adopt such a blanket policy it might work to the disadvantage of State service in periods of prosperity when private concerns bid for workers against the State."

Dr. Lescohier also said that the committee recommendation had not been aimed at discrimination against married women, but against any members of the same family who lived at home.

The Massachusetts Emergency Committee on Unemployment has recommended that married women employees whose husbands are earning sufficient incomes be discharged by employers, but also recommended dismissal of other classes of persons who have other means of support. The recommendations made to Massachusetts employers follow:

"That every effort be made to retain forces at usual number even at expense of economical operation.

"That in officers where such a method is practicable that excess office employees be temporarily given work in the plant or transfessed to sales forces.

"That if adjustments are absolutely necessary that seniority rules be suspended during the emergency and that preference

be given those with dependents, both men and women.

"That before any adjustments leading to decreased employment are made in forces, employees of the following classes be released until such time as conditions are normal:

"1. Married women whose husbands receive sufficient income to support them.

"2. Single women who are not dependent on their earnings for livelihood, but are working for pocket money or luxuries.

"3. Unmarried men whose families are able to support them.

"4. If after the following adjustments curtailment is necessary adopt the so-called stagger system which results in the retention of a maximum number of employees on the payroll though the individual receives lowered compensation because of short time work."

Name Controversy Breaks Out Anew

A BILL was recently introduced in the Massachusetts Legislature to require a woman upon her marriage to notify the Secretary of State of her change in name in case she holds any public office. Since some of the women in public employment felt that the measure would be interpreted to require a married woman in public office to use the surname of her husband, notwithstanding her desire to retain her maiden surname, the Massachusetts Branch of the Woman's Party has endeavored to have the bill laid aside or amended so as to clearly indicate its purpose. Roma N. Hawkins, executive secretary of the Branch, interviewed members of the Senate and succeeded in having the bill held up pending an inquiry as to whether it was introduced for informative purposes, or whether its object is to require a married woman to use the surname of her husband.

Mrs. Hawkins also called on National Headquarters for material on the name question and was sent the brief prepared by Burnita Shelton Matthews, chairman of the Lawyers' Council of the Woman's Party, for use in the passport case of Ruby Black and other cases.

The following editorial of January 31, 1931, from the Boston *Daily Globe,* was inspired by Mrs. Hawkins:

While a rose by any other name would smell as sweet, a candidate running under some other name would not receive as many votes. Suppose that the man whom New Yorkers had known as Grover Cleveland who had been elected Mayor of Buffalo and then Governor of New York, had been compelled to run for the Presidency as Stephen G. Cleveland? Is it conceivable that he would have won his own State by the slender margin of less than 1,000 votes, which was all that stood between him and defeat by Senator Blaine?

Yet Mr. Cleveland's Christian name was Stephen Grover, according to the parish records. In the course of his career he found it convenient to drop the Stephen and no law was on the books to compel him to be other than Grover Cleveland when he entered a political campaign.

Pending in the Legislature on Beacon Hill is a measure which would compel any woman holding State office to register her new name with the Secretary of State if she changed her old name by marriage. Very likely this measure owes its origin to the case of Ex-Representative Martha N. Brooks, who married Major Walter Brookings during her term in the Legislature. A year ago this month the General Court ordered her to drop the Brooks and adhere to the Brookings.

As long as married women were wives, mothers and housewives (persons of "no occupation," according to the census) there was no difficulty about a woman dropping her father's name and replacing it with that of her husband. She was thus identified, which is the purpose of a name. But when a woman who has become known by her maiden name is asked by custom to conceal herself under the name of her husband, the purpose of identification is not served.

Actresses have so steadfastly and so often refused to do so that their right to continue as the public knew them under their first success is now unquestioned. Women who have written books find it quite as necessary to call themselves by the names their readers know.

In the matter of passports the State Department at Washington has ruled that a married woman may have her passport issued in her maiden name, provided she has been always so known. When a well-known opera singer sued a firm of tobacconists for calling a cigar by her name and the defense set up the contention that, as she was married, it was not her name anyway, a Federal judge ruled that a married woman had a right to use her own name if she wants to.

Over in New York State Miss Frances Perkins is Industrial Commissioner, a position which gives her a seat in Governor Roosevelt's Cabinet. She is also Mrs. Paul C. Wilson. When she married her husband was a secretary to Mayor Mitchel and she, fearing that he might be embarrassed by her interest in labor problems, retained her own name. She has become immensely prominent and is known throughout the country as Miss Frances Perkins. Her daughter manages as Miss Wilson, but as Miss Perkins once explained, her own mother, being from Boston, always insists on introducing her as Mrs. Wilson.

The position of Who's Who is interesting. In it the biography of Miss Frances Perkins is complete, except that nothing is said about her being a wife and a mother.

It would not be beyond the realm of possiblity that this woman might some day run for Governor of New York or for the United States Senate. If so, she may be expected to campaign as she has been known throughout her life.

Anyone who enters politics must be very jealous of his or her personal trade mark. After John Calvin Coolidge had begun his climb up the ladder of public office as Calvin Coolidge he continued as such. Today his literary output would not command its satisfactory return if he should be moved to restore the discarded front name, John. And if President Wilson had run for his second term as Thomas Woodrow Wilson, the name his parents gave him, Mr. Hughes would be now an ex-president.

Married women in public life are seeking to retain their identity and the trend seems to be with them.

Press Comment

Susan B. Anthony

Evening Telegram, New York, February 14, 1931.

THE right of women to vote has been accepted as so inherent and natural a right that Susan B. Anthony's birthday passes without the attention usually accorded emancipators.

As a matter of gratitude, February 15, the birthday of this woman who pioneered the long fight, should be perpetually honored by women at least. It is her fate to receive only limited homage because her political victory is so complete that few remember how bitterly it was won.

This school teacher devoted most of her life to winning suffrage for women. She began in 1848, when she was young, and when she died, an old woman, victory was still thirteen years away. But in 1875 she drafted the Federal Suffrage Amendment in the form in which it was finally added to the Constitution.

Voting women have accomplished no great reforms. It was not intelligent to expect they would. With the same limited knowledge, the same motives and emo-

tions as men, they are subject to the same errors and faults. That was no reason for holding them as a subject class, and masculine as well as feminine self-respect demanded that they be treated as adults.

But only half of Susan B. Anthony's fight has been won. Political equality has not brought women civil equality. There are still States where a father may will a child away from its mother; where a wife's earnings and clothing and jewelry all belong to her husband, and where countless other laws deprive women of privileges enjoyed by men.

Some day these discriminations, too, will exist only in memories. Susan B. Anthony's motto was "No compromise," and her spirit lives on as all great spirits do.

Maternity Bill Defeated

Wisconsin State Journal, Madison, Wis., February 4, 1931.

FACTIONAL lines were blasted and a hint was given of future battles in the Legislature when the State Senate killed the Polakowski maternity insurance bill this morning by a vote of 15 to 12. By a vote of 16 to 11 the upper house refused to reconsider its action.

This bill was vigorously opposed by women's organizations throughout the State, chiefly on the ground that it would drive married women out of industry.

Senator Walter S. Goodland opposed it as bad economics and asserted that the Legislature already has before it a program which will help to wreck the State.

Senator Walter S. Hunt, who in the committee on education and public welfare voted for indefinite postponement of the measure, changed his mind, he said, because of the assertions made by women who opposed it.

The bill proposed that women employes in industry should be paid for six weeks before the birth of a child and eight weeks afterward on the basis of the workman's compensation act.

Senator Walter Polakowski, author of the bill, said his bill was intended to drive married women out of industry, because they were employed at low wages while the men were unable to get a job.

He cited the case of the Holtan tobacco plant at Stoughton which, he said, was asking permission to employ women, most of them married, at 16 cents an hour and less.

"Think of it!" he said. "How can a man get a job?"

Senator Ben Gettleman attacked Senator Polakowski and said he was trying to play to the galleries. Senator Polakowski said 13 foreign countries have similar regulations.

Senator George Blanchard challenged the statement about the Stoughton situation and said that under the minimum wage law older workers, most of them married women, can't compete with youngsters and, as a result, the companies have either to discharge them or appeal to the commission for relief. He did not defend the present situation, but advised a change in the minimum wage law rather than the Polakowski plan.

Senator Glenn D. Roberts called Senator Blanchard's statement "typical of the conservatives."

He said women in Madison tobacco plants get as low as $6.50 a week, and the same situation prevails in 5 and 10-cent stores. Many couples, he said, would like children, but they can't afford them.

"If industry is taking advantage of the situation to get cheap help, why can't it pay what this bill asks?" he said.

The bill was called a "slap at industry" by Senator Goodland, who warned that now is no time to enact legislation that will hurt industry.

The galleries were crowded, chiefly with women, when the vote started. Roll call followed on the motion for indefinite postponement, showing that many progressives voted against the measure, despite the Socialist-Progressive coalition.

Alice Paul Lauded

Chicago Tribune, Paris, France, January 29, 1931.

AMERICAN women won the day at Geneva when the issue of the struggle that is being waged by women of all countries for equality in nationality trembled in the balance, owing to the hesitation of the Council of the League of Nations to put this important problem on the agenda of the next Assembly, according to Maria Verone, French suffragist leader and noted Paris lawyer.

"The energy and determination shown by Alice Paul, chairman of the Nationality Committee of the Inter-American Commission of Women," Mme. Verone told *The Tribune* yesterday, "prevailed when all seemed lost and finally induced the Council to empower the secretary general of the League to create a committee of women, composed of two members from each of the leading international women's organizations, to report on the question of equality in nationality to the next Assembly.

"This is the first time in the history of the League of Nations that it has decided to ask the opinion of the organized women of the world on legislation which particularly concerns them. It is also significant that it was an American member of the League Council, M. Matos of Guatemala, supported by M. Zumeta of Venezuela and M. Barreto of Peru, who introduced the resolution putting the question before the next Assembly and creating a Women's Advisory Committee.

"The women of the world are fighting for equal nationality rights with men; that is to say, they want to have the right to keep their nationality after marriage if they so desire. The United States and France have already accorded them this right, but in very many other countries women still are compelled to adopt their husbands' nationality without having any say in the matter.

"The action of the League Council justifies the hope that an international settlement of this question, giving women of all countries the same nationality rights as men, is at last imminent.

"But the victory was not won without a bitter struggle. Curiously enough, it was Great Britain which opposed it most stubbornly. Foreign Minister Arthur Henderson, although a Laborite, somehow could not see the evident justice of the women's demands. For a time it seemed as if his opposition would wreck all our hopes. Then it was that the American delegation, and Miss Paul in particular, redoubled its efforts, filling all the other women with fresh courage. In the course of 24 hours Mr. Henderson received more than 200 telegrams from women's associations all over the world, exhorting him to change his atttiude. He was fairly swamped and finally gave in."

The text of the resolution adopted by the Council of the League is as follows:

"The Council decides to place on the agenda of the next session of the Assembly the question of the continued study of the nationality of women, and requests the secretary general to submit to the Assembly a report on the question after consultation with the following organizations which have been specially concerned with the nationality of women: The International Council of Women, the International Woman's Suffrage Alliance, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Inter-American Commission of Women, the Equal Rights International, the World Women's Union, the All-Asian Congress of Women, the International Congress of Women, the International Federation of University Women and the Young Women's Christian Association. The secretary general is authorized, if he thinks fit, to request the above-named organizations to set up a committee consisting of two representatives of each organization with the task of formulating joint proposals to be attached to the report to be submitted to the Assembly."

The adoption of the resolution, Madame Verone is convinced, is a decisive step in the elimination of distinctions based on sex in laws relating to nationality.

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Norwegian Feminism Described

NINNA WITH, president of the Woman's Party of Norway and vice-president of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Norway, was the guest of honor at a small, hurriedly-arranged, but charming dinner given by the National Woman's Party at the American Association of University Women's Clubhouse, February 19.

Miss With is on a lecture tour in this country, telling particularly of the work of the Business and Professional Women's Club in Norway, which is very active, and splendidly organized, and large, with a thousand members in Oslo alone. A member of the same organization in Montreal is traveling throughout Europe on the same mission, making it rather an exchange lecture affair.

Miss With came to the National Capital unexpectedly from Maryland and with little advance notice the Woman's Party hurried up their party for her. Mrs. Harvey Wiley, chairman of the National Council of the National Woman's Party, presided at the dinner, and the guests included Laura Berrien, Nina Allender, Maud Younger, Muna Lee, Emma Wold, who had met Miss With last year in Norway; Margaret Widdemer, the famous novelist; Mabel Griswold of Wisconsin, and a number of members of the Party.

Miss With gave a highly interesting account of the Feminist movement in Norway, beginning about one thousand years ago when "women first began to think and act for themselves" in her country. She said that the primary purpose of the Woman's Party of Norway is to encourage and aid women to hold high positions in the Government. Women are eligible to hold all or any offices in the Cabinet or the Government of Norway, but none have been elected so far. There are a few women in Parliament and some have been appointed on international commissions, but the Woman's Party is far from content with these achievements.

As for protective and restrictive regulations for women in industry, Norway is exceedingly fortunate and free, according to Miss With. There are no rules concerning night work for women which differ from rules for men, and the only industry from which women are prohibited in Norway is work in mines. Miss With is very proud of the fact that her country was the only one to object officially to the covenant signed by the International Labor Convention framed at the Washington Conference to prohibit night work for women.

The whole impression left with the guests at the dinner was that of a strong and progressive Feminist movement in Norway.

Prior to the dinner in her honor, Miss With inspected the National Headquarters of the National Woman's Party, which she admired greatly and considered highly important as a symbol of the Party both to members in this country, in her country, and all others. She expressed her sincere hope that the Alva Belmont House would be spared to the Woman's Party. She also said that the Feminists in her country follow the work of the National Woman's Party and read EQUAL RIGHTS eagerly and regularly.

News From the Field

Proposes Equal Hours Law

THE New Jersey Branch of the National Woman's Party, according to the Newark *Evening News,* has written to every member of the New Jersey State Legislature urging that the bill providing for prohibiting women from working more than 48 hours a week be amended to apply to all persons instead of to women only.

The letter says that the proposed law for women only "is a denial of justice to women and a vicious denial of the equality of working men and women."

"Once New Jersey admits inequality of status for the working woman in industry, the next step will be inequality of status for teachers, business and professional women, as was attempted in California," Leila Enders, State chairman, wrote.

"In less than five years the New Jersey Branch of the Party has had ten discriminations against women based upon sex removed from the New Jersey statute books. We are exceedingly proud that our State is now so clear of such discriminatory laws. Can we beg you in the name of justice and progress to offer a committee substitute for House Bill 48, using the word 'person' for the word 'female'?"

Copies of a recent article by Alma Lutz in the *Atlantic Monthly,* called, "Shall Woman's Work Be Regulated by Law?" were sent to the legislators.

For Married Women

LADY RHONDDA, a peeress in her own right and one of England's outstanding business women, has only praise and defense for women who work after marriage.

In a recent interview for a London paper refuting the attack made by Charlotte Cowdroy, a headmistress of a London school, against married women's working, Lady Rhondda said:

"Women's careers should go along with marriage. I entirely agree with Miss Cowdroy that for a majority of the human race marriage is the happiest thing, but I don't think that marriage and a career are alternatives, which exclude one from the other."

She added that women with careers often make the best mothers and wives.

Lady Rhondda succeeded to the title and vast industrial enterprises of her father.

Novelists Visit Headquarters

MARGARET WIDDEMER and Fleta Campbell Springer, both well-known novelists, recently visited Alva Belmont House and reported themselves as "enchanted" with it.

Miss Widdemer entertained members of the National Woman's Party at headquarters Saturday evening with her delightful singing of old English ballads.

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